

Environmental Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2005

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Environmental Steering Committee (ESC) was called to order at 12:05 pm (EDT) on September 20, 2005 by James Biasco, Chair.

Present:

Steve Aoyama

Keith Shortall

James Biasco, Chair

Gordon Delchamps

Roger DeRoos

Doug Ott

John Smart

Roger Carmichael

NOTE: voting members are shown in bold type.

A. Old Business

Guidance Document for Remediation

- James Biasco discussed the background and need for the document and the past perception that buildings must be completely clean before they are turned over to tribes.
- OGC is still looking at the previous opinions to determine whether there have been any changes.
- Roger DeRoos explained the Guidance Document and the thinking and methodology used in its development. The impetus was the section regarding transfers
- Related chapters of the Technical Handbook will need to be updated to reflect the new guidance.
- The draft document was previously sent to ESC members. All comments should be directed to Roger and Gary.

Use of Remediation Funds

- Dennis Barber, Ron Klem, and Gordon Delchamps were to have developed a White Paper regarding whether Environmental Remediation Funds equivalent in amount to the Demolition funds which would be provided for demolition of the Federal facility

be instead offered to the Tribe for renovation of the facility. Both Dennis and Ron have since retired.

- James Biasco reiterated that we need our position stated in writing and the issue will be addressed in a future Technical Handbook chapter.
- The current position is that we will use Demolition funds for demolition only and may not be used for rebuilding after remediation.

Previously Submitted Projects

- FOH worked with Aberdeen to refine their PJD's and the projects may be ready for resubmission.
- The status of the Navajo Area projects resubmission is unknown.

B. New Business

Environmental Health and Safety Awareness Guide

- Jim Biasco stated the background and reasons for having the guide developed. He would like one–two pages per item.
- Roger stated that the pilot effort (front-end work) will cost approximately \$15,000 and the total cost for the full deliverable should be approximately \$60,000.
- Doug Ott wondered whether there are any requirements from which 638-tribes are exempt. It was noted that the Federal official is ultimately responsible. Doug requests that a cover letter explaining how much the 638 tribes are responsible for be sent along with the guide.
- The Committee is seeking volunteers for an Internal Resource Team to assist in the development of the Guide.
 - James Biasco nominated Gordon Delchamps
 - Need Area volunteers
- The NOAA version of the guide was previously sent to ESC members. Please send comments to Roger DeRoos.

Call for Projects

- A request for FY-06 projects will be issued in the near future.
- Use the draft Guidance Document as a guideline when developing the projects.

- Projects will be due in mid to late November.
- Assessments and management plans are acceptable projects.
- Tribal facilities are eligible for funding.

New Membership

- The Committee is seeking nominations/volunteers to replace the following members:
 - Ron Klem retired.
 - Gordon Delchamps transferred from the Oklahoma Area to Headquarters.
- A call for members will be sent out to the Areas.

C. Date and Agenda for Next Meeting

The next Environmental Steering Committee meeting has not yet been scheduled. Once a meeting is determined necessary, a date will be determined and an agenda will be developed and distributed to all members.

Adjournment:

James Biasco adjourned meeting at 2:55 pm (EDT).

Minutes submitted by: Gordon R. Delchamps

Approved by: James R. Biasco